

League's acting chief to relocate in Cairo

CAIRO (AP) — The Arab League's acting secretary-general takes up his post in Cairo Tuesday to start the process of bringing league headquarters back to Egypt after 11 years in Tunisia. Foreign Minister Esmael Abdul Maguid said the return of Assad Al Assad "is considered the first step towards the return of the secretariat." At a regular meeting last March in Tunis, Arab League foreign ministers agreed to the transfer but delayed the official announcement. That came in Cairo in September, after the eruption of the Gulf crisis splintered the league into countries bitterly opposed to Iraq, led by Egypt, and others not sharing the Egyptian-led view who boycotted the meeting. Chadi Klibi, the Tunisian who was the long-term secretary-general, resigned shortly before the Cairo meeting, apparently over the relocation decision. His senior assistant Assad was appointed to fill the void. Recent reports have said that Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), has proposed that Arab countries which were not lined up in the Egyptian-led camp should found a new Arab League.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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King exchanges views with Saleh

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday telephoned Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh and exchanged views with him on the latest developments in the Gulf crisis. The two leaders discussed efforts made at the Arab and international levels to reach a political solution to the Gulf crisis and other problems in the Middle East.

Jerusalem panel reviews moves

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Commission on Jerusalem Affairs held a meeting Monday under the chairmanship of Akram Zul'Atir and in the presence of the commission's secretary general, Fayed Jaber. The commission discussed resolutions adopted by the Jerusalem Committee during its recent meeting in Rabat, Morocco, under the chairmanship of King Hassan II. Israeli practices aiming at Judaizing Arab Jerusalem and other issues. The commission decided to continue its contacts with Arab establishments to counter dangers threatening Arab and Islamic existence in Jerusalem.

Iraq encourages herbal remedies

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq is encouraging people to use herbal remedies to overcome a shortage of imported medical drugs, health experts said Monday. Certain essential medicines have disappeared on the local market, while several hospitals have stopped conducting non-emergency operations for lack of medical supplies. The shortage of pharmaceutical products stems from the U.N.-sanctioned trade embargo following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait Aug. 2. The Iraqi News Agency said Ministry of Health experts had approved 69 new herbal medicines/medical cures. Herbal treatment has already been practised in Iraq but the shortage of Western-type medicines prompted authorities to encourage further research on traditional natural remedies.

Egypt arrests suspects in bus attack

CAIRO (R) — Egypt has secretly arrested several Palestinians it accuses of involvement in a February gun and grenade attack on an Israeli bus in which 11 people were killed, security sources said Monday. "Yes, we have arrested Palestinians. They were arrested some time ago," a senior state security officer told Reuters when asked about the reported detentions. The sources claimed Palestinians were behind the attack near Cairo in which nine Israelis and two Egyptians were killed. The security officer refused to say how many people were arrested but said they would stand trial.

Iraq gives POWs two choices

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq has given prisoners-of-war (POWs) returning from Iran a choice of either taking government jobs or receiving retirement benefits. Newspapers said Monday the ruling Revolutionary Command Council's decision, taken Sunday, would affect thousands of POWs freed since Iraq and Iran made peace in August. Iran and Iraq have released a total of 75,000 Red Cross-registered POWs in the past two months. Another 25,000 unregistered POWs are still believed held by the two countries.

Tunisia reports high voter turnout

TUNIS (R) — The Tunisian government said Monday that 79 per cent of registered voters took part Sunday in two parliamentary by-elections where the only candidates were from the ruling party. Interior Minister Abdul Hamid Esseikh said the turnout in the Ben Arous constituency, on the southern edges of the capital, was 68 per cent, while in the rural western constituency of Beja 91 per cent of voters voted. The new members of parliament are Khaled Trabelsi in Ben Arous and Taieb Ghribi in Beja. Both are from the ruling Democratic Constitutional Rally (RCD).

Gorbachev calls for Arab initiative to resolve Gulf crisis

Primakov briefs Saudi leaders on mission

Combined agency dispatches

RAMBOUILLET, France — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, saying he rejects a military solution in the Gulf crisis, called Monday for an inter-Arab meeting to help resolve the Gulf crisis.

Gorbachev told a news conference with French President Francois Mitterrand that a "political solution to an acute conflict" had to consider the Iraqi position.

"The best thing is for us to deal with this man [Iraqi President Saddam Hussein]. The best thing would be to have an inter-Arab meeting, some Arab mechanism... we could reach agreement more quickly that way," Gorbachev added.

The Soviet leader, ending a 24-hour visit to France, said international solidarity against Iraq's takeover of Kuwait almost three months ago was vital.

"We cannot allow and should never give grounds for Iraq... to be able to think or hope that there will ever be any disharmony or weakening of decisions," he said in reference to U.N. conde-

nition of the Aug. 2 invasion. Gorbachev made specific mention of Saudi Arabia, where more than 200,000 foreign troops aligned against Iraq have dug in, when calling for the inter-Arab conference.

"Certain countries might undertake a particular role. I am thinking of Saudi Arabia... they might take an initiative. There is an inter-Arab mechanism that needs to be brought into play now," Gorbachev added.

He did not say which Arab mechanism could play a role in a peace initiative.

The Soviet leader said he has received fresh indications that "under the pressure of sanctions,

Jordan welcomes Soviet call

AMMAN (R) — Jordan has welcomed Monday's call by Mikhail Gorbachev for an inter-Arab meeting on the Gulf crisis, described by the Soviet leader as the best chance of avoiding war.

An official source in Jordan welcomed the proposal. He said "conflicting agendas" of non-Arab countries trying to solve the crisis had not helped a solution.

"I think the Soviets for the past few weeks have been very much trying to understand the problem and solve it," he said. "His statement fits in with the whole Arab thinking."



Mikhail Gorbachev

against Iraq.

"We must not permit the Iraqi regime to hope there will be a division, a weakening of positions," he told reporters.

He said military options were unacceptable as a means of resolving the crisis, but insisted that Iraq comply with U.N. demands to free foreign nationals and withdraw from Kuwait.

"I think it's unacceptable to have a military solution, but President Hussein should not indulge in speculation," Gorbachev said.

"We want to do step by step everything that ensures that sound logic prevails, and you can't call what they [Iraq] have done anything other than adventurism."

Gorbachev said he had received a telegram from his envoy,

(Continued on page 5)

Iraq seeks Franco-Soviet political commitment

From Lamis K. Andoni in Baghdad

IRAQ IS willing to release all foreign nationals held as detainees against attack in return for a Soviet-French commitment that the Gulf crisis would be resolved through political means, a senior Iraqi official said Monday.

The official said this was a compromise reached between the Iraqi leadership and Soviet envoy Yevgeny Primakov after the Soviet envoy insisted on a meeting with the Iraqi authorities.

"If this happens, then the issue of foreign nationals will be dealt with in a different manner," the official said. When pressed whether this meant a release of all foreigners held as "guests" by the Iraqi authorities, the official said: "Once the diplomatic process gets under way there is no need for the guests to remain in Iraq or Kuwait."

A senior Arab diplomatic source said the initial position adopted by Primakov, who arrived in a Soviet-French

commitment will pave the way for a serious political process and movement towards a diplomatic solution to the problem," said the official, who spoke to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity.

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U.N. adopts anti-Iraq resolution

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United Nations Security Council Monday adopted a resolution holding Iraq responsible for "war damages" and asking states to document financial losses and "mistrreatment" of civilians arising from Iraq's takeover of Kuwait.

The vote was 13 in favour and none against with abstentions cast by Cuba and Yemen. The draft was sponsored by Britain, Canada, Finland, France, Romania, the United States, the Soviet Union and Zaire.

The resolution, which touches on various aspects of the Iraqi takeover, also demands an end to all "hostage-taking" and the destruction of property by Iraqi forces in Kuwait and says Baghdad must resupply foreigners and the few embassies operating in Kuwait without adequate food or water.

The vote had been scheduled for Saturday but in a last-minute turnaround the Soviet Union asked the council for a postponement in the

hope that talks to Baghdad between Soviet envoy Yevgeny Primakov and Iraqi leaders would lead to a peaceful solution of the crisis.

Primakov left Baghdad early Monday. Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, speaking in Paris, held out hopes Iraq may yet be willing to give ground.

U.S. officials were quick to point out that the resolution leaves the door open for military action by threatening to punish Iraq with unspecified "further measures" if it fails to comply with any provision in the resolution as well as previous measures adopted by the council since Baghdad invaded the emirate Aug. 2.

The resolution encourages Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to undertake diplomatic efforts for a peaceful solution in Kuwait without adequate food or water.

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He urged Hrawi and Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss to sponsor a national conference for dialogue and reconciliation between Lebanon's various communities.

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of God), said Sunday its men would not lay down their weapons which they held to fight Israel.

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He did not say where he would take his weapons and men, but political sources said they would be moved to South Lebanon, Amal's main stronghold.

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Saddam: Bush closing door to talks

NEW YORK (R) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein suggested in a television interview Monday that President George Bush was closing the door to dialogue in the Gulf crisis by comparing him to Hitler. He also denied a suggestion that Soviet envoy Yevgeny Primakov's latest meeting with the Iraqi leader in Baghdad accomplished nothing and represented the last chance for a negotiated settlement before war breaks out. Asked his reaction to Bush comparing him to Hitler, Saddam told Cable News Network (CNN) in an interview in the Iraqi capital: "But you, as a citizen of the United States, don't you think that Mr. Bush would have committed an error in that description when he is dealing — which he applied to a head of state with which he has had dealings and in which, indeed, he still has a resident embassy and with which he will still seek to conduct diplomatic dealings and political contacts?"

AMMAN (J.T.) — There is still chance for peace in the Gulf if only the parties involved are willing for dialogue and compromise to resolve the problem. His Majesty King Hussein has said.

"I think there are signs coming out of Iraq at this time that suggest a readiness to move towards a peaceful and secure region," the King was quoted as saying in an interview published in the latest issue of Time magazine.

"The only problem is that there seems to have been embargo on dialogue and readiness to compromise," the King was quoted as saying.

The King, interviewed by Dean Fisher and James Wilde of Time, also warned of massive devastation in the event of a war in the Gulf.

"The U.S. possesses the most modern weapons of war in the world. But I don't see how the Iraqis are out to remove weapons of mass destruction in the entire region. I think there is readiness on the Arab side. But the King said:

"We are always stand against the occupation of territories by war, and certainly against annexations, and this is a principle we have applied across the board. But the tragedy in this case is that it all could have been avoided had some effort been made by the parties concerned, with Arab help, to resolve the problem peacefully."

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GCC talks of peace but no compromise

RIYADH (Agencies) — Gulf countries planned new peace moves Monday to try to solve the Gulf crisis but warned Iraq not to expect any compromise.

"There will be no concessions nor solutions outside the U.N. Security Council resolutions in order not to give the aggressor any benefit," a final communiqué said after two days of talks by Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) foreign ministers.

Omani Foreign Minister Yousef Ben Alawi Ben Abdullah said, however, that diplomacy was not dead.

"Steps are to be taken in the coming weeks. These steps are considered part of diplomatic activity," he told reporters without elaborating.

The communiqué said Iraq's refusal to withdraw from Kuwait could lead to a devastating war that would cost the Iraqi people

dearly.

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal left the meeting early for talks with Soviet envoy Yevgeny Primakov who flew to Jeddah.

"(Primakov) asked to come, so let's see what he has to say," the prince told reporters.

Ben Alawi appeared to retain some hope that Primakov's mission was not a total failure.

"I don't know what is in the pocket of Mr. Primakov," he said.

Oman holds the rotating presidency of the GCC which also groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates.

The foreign ministers held a second, unscheduled round of talks Monday morning at its marble headquarters in the Saudi capital.

Ben Alawi said Sunday real

diplomacy had just started in the Gulf crisis. But the group's Kuwaiti secretary-general, Abdullah Bishara, said diplomacy was in its last chapter and the region would be close to inferno in a week.

He stressed that the GCC continues to demand an "unconditional, full, total and complete" pullout of Iraqi troops from Kuwait.

Craig in Bahrain

Britain's Chief of Defence Staff Sir David Craig arrived in Bahrain Monday as part of a regional tour, the Gulf News Agency (GNA) said.

A British embassy spokesman said Craig, who flew in from Riyadh, would visit British forces on the island and discuss the Gulf crisis with senior Bahraini officials. He is due to leave for the

United Arab Emirates Tuesday. Britain has fighter-bombers in Saudi Arabia, Oman and Bahrain. Around 12,000 British servicemen are on their way to or in the Gulf as part of the multinational force gathered to confront Iraq.

Craig told a news conference before leaving Saudi Arabia he was optimistic the Gulf crisis could be resolved peacefully, but that if war started the multinational force would defeat Iraq.

"If we have to go to war it will be because we are quite confident that we can," he said.

He added he was "absolutely happy" with the chain of command, which puts British troops under the tactical control of U.S. Gulf Commander-in-Chief General Norman Schwarzkopf.

"We've made very good arrangements with our American friends," he said.

PLO says Israeli report into killings is whitewash

TUNIS (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has rejected the Israeli inquiry into the Oct. 8 massacre of Palestinians in occupied Jerusalem as an attempt at a whitewash.

Israel's cabinet has endorsed the report.

The PLO tried to obtain a U.N. Security Council mission of inquiry into the killings. Israel refused to receive the mission from the U.N. secretary-general, the council finally approved.

Abu Sharif repeated demands for U.N. protection for Palestinians against Israeli occupation forces in the West Bank and Gaza and again accused Washington of double standards.

"As Israel tells the United Nations and the world to go to hell — that it will massacre whenever it chooses — the United States sends \$700 million to the Sharon government to buy more guns and bullets to murder more Arabs," he said.

"Israeli massacres continue to escalate, and even at this moment the Sharon government laughs in the face of the U.N."

The commission, headed by former intelligence chief Zvi Zamir, said police were justified

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

UAE to lose money from long crisis

ABU DHABI (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) will lose money if the Gulf crisis drags on despite extra revenue from high oil prices, the central bank governor said. Abdul Malik Al Hamar said Sunday night that oil revenue would soar 35 per cent this year to 50 billion dirhams (\$13.6 billion) from 37 billion (\$10 billion) in 1989. But the UAE's funding for the multinational force in the Gulf, its own defence needs and aid to countries hit by the Gulf crisis would offset the extra income, Hamar said in a lecture. He gave no figures for UAE spending, but said U.S. estimates put defence spending and funding for the multinational force by the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states at \$18 billion per year. The GCC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, The UAE, Bahrain, Oman and Qatar. Oil prices are around \$33 per barrel, against \$20 before Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. The UAE, to help make up lost exports by Iraq and Kuwait, boosted output to around 2.2 million bpd this month from around 1.6 in August. Hamar said seven billion dirhams (\$1.9 billion) were transferred out of the UAE in a run on banks in the days after the invasion. "If there is a war I expect transfer of funds to be at that level per month," he added.

Irish lawmakers reject warning

DUBLIN (AP) — An opposition lawmaker said Monday he was determined to go ahead with a visit to Iraq, but two others who planned to make the trip were not saying how they would respond to pressure from the government. There are 225 Irish citizens known to be detained in Iraq. Leaders of European Community (EC) nations pledged themselves at their weekend summit in Rome to discourage such contacts with the Iraqi government. "My obligation now, as a result of this declaration which is a good and strong one, is the responsibility to discourage others from going to Iraq to negotiate the release of the hostages," Prime Minister Charles Haughey said Sunday. Micheal D. Higgins, a Labour Party legislator from Galway, said he intended to depart from Iraq Thursday as planned. "I am going as an independent parliamentarian in response to a request from the Gulf Relatives Support Committee," Higgins said. Two of his colleagues, however, were non-committal. Paul Bradford of Fine Gael, the main opposition party, said the group would have to seriously consider any request from Haughey to call off the trip. David Andrews of the government Fianna Fail Party declined to discuss the situation.

Israeli officer detained on suspicion of fraud

TEL AVIV (AP) — Military police detained a high-ranking air force officer suspected of fraud and bribery in connection with the purchase of weapons and other equipment in the U.S., Israel Television reported. The officer, identified as Brigadier-General Ami Dotan, is the highest ranking army officer to be detained on such charges in recent years. The report said Dotan's detention follows a secret investigation of several months conducted by Israeli police and military investigators. The radio said Dotan was suspected of committing these crimes while serving with a Defence Ministry delegation in New York two years ago. The reports gave other details.

4 killed in clash in southeast Turkey

ANKARA (R) — Three Kurdish rebels and a para-military gendarme were killed Sunday in a clash between rebels and Turkish security forces in southeastern Turkey, the semi-official Anatolian news agency said Monday. The clash was near the town of Lice, in Diyarbakir province, 800 kilometres southeast of Ankara. More than 2,600 people have been killed since the "autonomy-seeking" Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) launched an independence campaign in mid-1984.

Egypt claims capture of Iraqi-run group

CAIRO (R) — Egypt said it has captured several Palestinian saboteurs, including one that allegedly received instructions from Iraq. Interior Minister Abdul Halim Musa was quoted by the state-owned Al Ahram newspaper Monday as telling a cabinet meeting the groups had infiltrated Egypt from several border points and had been carrying weapons, ammunition and explosives. One of the groups was run by Baghdad and was instructed to contact Egyptian extremists to help them stage attacks inside the country, the paper said Musa told the Sunday cabinet meeting. The Palestinians were carrying plans for attacking important figures in the country or had instructions to make contact and cooperate with Egyptian extremists, the paper reported him as saying. Al Ahram did not indicate if any of the groups were involved in the Oct. 12 murder of Parliamentary Speaker Rifat Mahjoub. It is dawn said Saturday Egypt arrested a group of fundamentalists it said had carried out the assassination and on Sunday security sources said 300 others had been detained for questioning. The Interior Ministry said some of the fundamentalists had received foreign support.

Gulf crisis has cost Soviets \$10 billion

LONDON (R) — Foreign Trade Minister Konstantin Katushev said Sunday the Gulf crisis had cost the Soviet Union \$10 billion, TASS news agency reported. The Gulf crisis has had "a most negative effect" on the Soviet economy which has sustained direct and indirect losses of about \$10 billion, it quoted him as saying on a visit to Saudi Arabia. TASS, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said the Soviet Union and Saudi Arabia had agreed to give each other most favoured nation trading status as part of agreements to develop bilateral trade. Katushev said a Soviet trade mission would be set up in Saudi Arabia.

Israel moves to prosecute Miari

TEL AVIV (AP) — The Israeli parliament's house committee voted Monday to strip an Israeli Arab legislator of his immunity so he can be prosecuted for meeting Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials in violation of an Israeli law.

The legislator, Mohammad Miari, of the one-seat leftist Progressive Movement for Peace party, called the decision a "lynching." He said he may appeal to the supreme court.

The committee decision, approved 13:6 with two abstentions, stands a good chance of winning final approval by the 120-member parliament later this week.

Several other legislators have been stripped of their parliamentary immunity in the past, usually to allow prosecution on corruption charges.

Miari, 50, is accused of violating a 1986 law that bars contact with "terrorist" groups.

At issue is Miari's appearance with PLO officials at a February 1988 news conference in Athens. The Athens meeting was part of the PLO's plan to send ship with expelled Palestinians aboard to Israel and the occupied territories. The plan was scuttled by an underwater explosion that blew a hole in the hull of the ship.

Miari, born in a village near Acre that was destroyed in the 1948 war, said the committee decision was a "dishonour to Israeli democracy."

"My immunity is not given me by legislators but by the masses who elected me for my message of seeking peace and a just solution by establishing a Palestinian state alongside Israel," Miari added.

Committee member Haggai Merom of the left-of-centre Labour Party defended the vote by saying, "for me the PLO is the enemy and when Miari cooperates with the PLO then he becomes my enemy."

Israel's supreme court struck down an earlier attempt to partially lift Miari's immunity in 1986 for meeting PLO leaders.

The last Israeli convicted of violating the "anti-terror" law was peace activist Abie Nathan who was released February after serving four months in jail for meeting PLO leader Yasser Arafat in Tunis. Nathan is being tried again following another meeting with Arafat earlier this year.

Thatcher wants Iraq to scrap non-convention arms

LONDON (AP) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said Monday that Iraq must give up its chemical, biological and nuclear weapons or face long-term economic sanctions.

Even if Iraq withdraws troops from Kuwait, sanctions might have to continue to prevent it from using the weapons, Thatcher said.

"We shall have to consider how to deal with the chemical weapons, biological weapons and nuclear weapons which Iraq has so that they could never be used. That we'd have to do through the United Nations," she said in a television interview.

"It is possible that we could keep on the sanctions until we had settled the matter, otherwise, it is quite possible that we shall be back in precisely the same position within a few years," Thatcher said.

Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said Friday Britain wanted a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis but stressed force would be used unless Iraqi troops withdrew from Kuwait.

U.S. shifting support in effort to end Afghan war

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States is adopting a new tactic in Afghanistan, reflecting a determination to end one of its last proxy wars against the Soviet Union.

Officials and experts say the United States has shifted support away from leaders of the Afghan exile community in Pakistan to the rebel commanders inside Afghanistan who are fighting the Soviet-armed government.

U.S. officials hope the rebel commanders can break the stalemate in the fighting and clear the way to a peace agreement with Moscow and the pro-Soviet in Kabul.

The rebels, armed by the United States and Saudi Arabia, have failed to fulfill predictions they would defeat the Kabul government after it lost the support of Soviet troops, who invaded Afghanistan in 1979 and went home 20 months ago.

But the commanders recently set up a new council, and earlier this month 40 commanders from around Afghanistan met to coordinate an offensive against provincial capitals.

"For the first time since the Soviets withdrew, the Mujahideen are pulling together," said one U.S. official.

Both the United States and the Soviet Union want out of Afghanistan, just as they are trying to extricate themselves from supporting rival factions in the protracted civil wars in Cambodia and Angola.

Initially, the United States had high hopes for a seven-faction Afghan interim government set up in Pakistan last year to oversee rebel operations against Kabul and prepare for a transition to democratic rule.

But the administration was forced to re-evaluate due to continued fighting, divisions among the factions, U.S. disagreements with Pakistan, and growing pressure from Congress to cut aid to the rebels.

The administration is pinning its hopes on the newly organized council of guerrilla commanders to put military pressure on the Kabul government and strengthen the U.S. position at the bargaining table.

"There has definitely been a tilt toward dealing directly with the commanders," said Zalmay Khalilzad, a frequent adviser to the State Department.

JORDAN TELEVISION

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PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:40 Programmes review
15:45 Children programmes
16:00 News Summary
16:10 Local programme
16:45 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Programme review
21:40 Local programme
23:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Sciences
18:10 L'cole des fans
18:15 News in French
18:15 Aujourd'hui in Jordanie
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Documentary: "Ivory Coast"
21:30 French film
22:00 News in English
22:20 French film continued

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church, Swindon Tel: 810740

Assemblies of God Church, Tel: 632785, 685326.

St. Joseph Church Tel: 624390.

Church of the Annunciation Tel: 537444.

El Sale Church Tel: 661757

Tomasita Church Tel: 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel: 625541.

Anglican Church Tel: 625383, Tel: 628543.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel: 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel: 775261.

St. Ephraim Church Tel: 771757.

Amman International Church Tel: 683320.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel: 812295.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel: 815817, 65432.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

A rise in temperature will occur and winds will be southerly moderate to fresh, causing dust in desert areas. In Aqaba, it will be dusty with

EMERGENCIES

911: Civil Defence Immediate

911: Civil Defence Emergency 159

911: Fire Police 192, 621112, 537777

911: Fire Brigade 891228

911: Highway Police 243402

911: Traffic Police 896390

911: Public Security Department 630321

911: Hotel Complaints 650800

911: Price Complaints 661176

911: Water and Sewerage Complaints 661111

911: Radio Jordan 774111

911: Al Sharq's pharmacy (98238)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN: Dr. Salman Daboubi 776751

Dr. Khalil Abdul Qader 775392



Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday visits Eidoun social services centre (Petra photo)

Princess Basma visits social services centre

IRBID (J.T.) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday visited a social services centre set up at Eidoun in the Irbid Governorate and was briefed on the progress of work and the programmes prepared for the trainees and the various installations needed for the centre's operations.

The centre, which is to join 25 other similar centres operated by the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QAF) in the Kingdom is also being prepared to serve as a model institution training women in the field of child care in the Irbid Governorate, according to QAF's officials.

They said that the centre, to open soon, would accommodate 90 children to be seated in three kindergarten classes in addition to a number of children, aged seven to 13, who will have special courses on ways to develop their skills and talents.

Women taking courses in the centre will also be trained in farming activities to help national effort to ensure food security for the country and to help raise the family standard of living.

The Princess, who is chairperson of the QAF's board of trustees, was welcomed at the site by Irbid Governor Jawdat Sebou

velop skills of local women, offering them vocational training, cultural, social and health courses designed to help build sound bases for family life specially in the rural regions of Jordan.

QAF has already extended technical and financial assistance to many child care programmes in rural and bedouin areas in Jordan as well as in needy urban locations. Through specialised staff, QAF started kindergartens and children's clubs and now runs courses for women in pre-natal care, breastfeeding and early childhood care, emphasising on ways to prevent disabling illnesses.

Women taking courses in the centre will also be trained in farming activities to help national effort to ensure food security for the country and to help raise the family standard of living.

The Princess, who is chairperson of the QAF's board of trustees, was welcomed at the site by Irbid Governor Jawdat Sebou

who paid tribute to QAF and Princess Basma for their contributions to the local communities.

Sebou also briefed the Princess on various aspects of the centre and on the way the local population will benefit from its services.

QAF specialists, present during the visit, spoke in detail about QAF's activities and programmes; they said that QAF plans to open a total of 50 centres for social services, especially in the rural areas and poor districts of the country.

Established in 1977, QAF is a non-profit private national organisation supporting voluntary work and promoting social developments in urban, rural and semi-arid desert regions in Jordan.

The Eidoun centre, according to the specialists, will be used as a model centre to train personnel on voluntary and social development programmes.

Centre in Zarqa to advise on saving energy

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Monday opened an energy and electricity information and advisory centre in Zarqa to provide advice to the public about means of cutting down on electricity and fuel consumption in the course of a nation-wide drive to reduce fuel consumption under the present difficult circumstances.

The ministry's Secretary General Asem Ghosheh inaugurated the centre, the third of its kind in Jordan, and said that the bills were showing a decrease in fuel consumption, but he did not disclose the amount of savings.

The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources has just completed an initial study on the results of the application of fuel saving measures, introduced on Oct. 7, and found out that "quite a reasonable margin of savings of

imported oil used for generating electricity and driving machines has been made."

Last week, Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) Director General Mohammad Saeed Ararach said on Jordan Television that feed back in the form of bills for consumed energy available to JEA show that members of public have been reducing energy consumption especially in the domestic fields.

Predictions made by JEA and Jordanian economists upon the introduction of energy conservation measures predicted that at least 3,550 tonnes of fuel, needed to produce electricity, would be saved every year.

The government introduced a two-day weekend for its employees to cut down on energy and fuel used in the buildings and

transport. It also decided that commercial businesses close at 7 p.m. and street lighting be switched off at 5 a.m.

In financial terms the economists said the measures would save up to \$500,000 monthly, in addition to an unspecified quantity of fuel used for transporting employees to and from work.

Ghosh said in his statement Monday that the bills were "good indicators that reducing fuel consumption was yielding fruit" and that the measures were welcomed by the public sectors in general.

The centre in Zarqa, like the other two located in Amman and Irbid, he said, will be providing advice free of charge about heating facilities, lighting, insulation of buildings and different means of cutting down on fuel and electricity consumption.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Prince Haasan visits Division

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Haasan Monday visited the Fourth Royal Mechanised Division headquarters where he was received by its commander and senior officials. The Crown Prince later visited one of the division's formations and inspected its training process and administrative work. The Prince conveyed to the formation's recruits the greetings of His Majesty King Hussein, the supreme commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, and urged them to persevere in their work to keep the Armed Forces strong.

Kabriti, German ambassador hold talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Abdul Karim Al Kabriti thanked the German government for the assistance it extended to Jordan. In a meeting Monday with the German Ambassador to Jordan Herwig Bartels, Kabriti reviewed the effects of the Gulf crisis on Jordan in general, and on tourism in particular. Kabriti and Bartels also discussed the arrangements taken for opening Umm Qais Gallery and the completion of the renovation works carried out through assistance from the German government.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

* Exhibition of children's paintings at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation (9 a.m. - 5 p.m.).

* Exhibition entitled "Science and Technology Parks" at the British Council.

FILMS

* Open film festival (organised jointly by Goethe Institute and the British Council and introduced in Arabic and English by the British Council); on Sunday "Die Niederrheinische" will be screened at 8:00 p.m.

National charter panels finalise work

AMMAN (J.T.) — Most of the sub-committees affiliated to the general commission preparing the national charter have finalised their work and a special group is now preparing two working papers for the commission's discussions, according to Ahmad Obeidat, chairman of the Royal Commission on the National Charter.

Obeidat told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the two papers would deal with the Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation and with Jordanian ties with Arab and foreign countries.

The sub-committees which finalised their work are those dealing with economic and social issues, political pluralism and the state of law, education and national security.

According to Obeidat, the Royal commission will hold a meeting later on to discuss the two papers and will also review the sub-committees' reports.

Obeidat said that the commission was yet to debate a working paper about national security. He believed that the final approval of this particular paper depended on the endorsement by the commission of the other papers and reports.

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New coalition hopes to promote parliamentary life

AMMAN (J.T.) — The newly formed 42 member parliamentary coalition is based on all embracing programmes aiming at promoting parliamentary life in the country, according to Atef Bebout, member of the independent Islamic Bloc which is part of the coalition.

Bebout, who has nominated himself as a candidate for the Parliament speakership, said he hoped the new coalition would be supported by all public sectors since "it will follow a balanced pattern to serve all factions."

The birth of the so-called Arab-Islamic parliamentary coalition was announced by Deputy Issa Reimouni who said that it will comprise 22 deputies from the Islamic Bloc, eight from the independent Muslim group, seven liberals and five nationalists.

According to Reimouni, the coalition could grow to include 46 members, but consultations among the deputies are underway and the results are not known yet.

House Speaker Suleiman Arar said that major blocs and coalitions in Parliament would have their influence on the various resolutions. "The big groups are bound to have an effect on reaching speedy resolutions on

various issues," Arar said.

Arar, who is running for a second term, said that the House, in its second session due to open on Nov. 17, would witness further achievements.

"Should I be re-elected as House speaker, I will do all in my power to provide better services and offices for the deputies in Parliament, depending on the budget and the available financial means," said Arar.

Deputy Fawzi Tuwimien told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the new coalition aimed at raising the standard of parliamentary life and effectiveness, and it hoped to unify various factions. "Unity of will and action inside Parliament will have its positive and favourable impact on the legislations," he said.

He said that the new coalition aimed at achieving a broader consensus among the deputies on various topics and at fulfilling the aspirations of the electorate.

Meanwhile, it was announced Monday that the National Bloc in Parliament would hold a meeting Wednesday to discuss nominating a candidate for the speakership post. The Liberal Bloc has scheduled a similar meeting Wednesday.



His Majesty King Hussein Monday receives the new Papal nuncio, Andrea di Montezemolo (Petra photo)

King receives Papal message from new Apostolic delegate

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday received a message from His Holiness Pope John Paul II accrediting a new Apostolic delegate to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

The message was delivered to the King at the Royal Court by the new delegate Andrea di Montezemolo who arrived in Amman Friday on a week-long visit to Jordan.

King Hussein welcomed the delegate to Jordan and wished him success in his noble mission, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The new delegate will now serve as the Vatican ambassador to Jordan and Palestine.

Di Montezemolo Saturday re

ceived members of a delegation which will soon be visiting the Vatican for a meeting with the Pope to discuss Middle East issues, difficulties facing Jordan as a result of the Gulf crisis and the situation in the occupied Arab territories.

They said that the delegation to visit Rome will comprise members of both houses of parliament, heads of universities, mayors, university professors, labour federation members, women groups, heads of tribes and intellectuals as well as heads of Islamic and Christian communities.

The date of the delegation's visit is expected to be fixed once arrangements have been completed.

Mother Teresa may consider visit to Baghdad

Charity group unveils initiative for Gulf talks

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — An international group which enjoys the support of renowned pacifist and social worker Mother Teresa has unveiled a self-initiated proposal for peace talks to resolve the Gulf crisis and is appealing to all parties concerned not to undertake any "inflammatory" activities which could undermine its efforts.

"Refugee Year 89-90," a London-based international charity, has been working since Oct. 15 to arrange a "peace meeting" involving politicians from the different countries involved in the Gulf crisis, on neutral territory" in the next 14 to 21 days, said Daniel Lillis, deputy secretary-general of the organisation, which was set up in November 1989.

The organisation has no political position on the conflict and is seeking only to develop a "dialogue" among the parties. "Any political substance to the talks should come from the various interested parties involved," Lillis told a press conference Monday. At the same time, he said, the proposal has the endorsement of "eight to nine European countries and several Asian nations," he said. "Discussions would also reflect the wider concerns of the interested parties regarding the long-standing problems of the region," he said in an obvious reference to the Arab-Israeli conflict and other problems in the region.

Lillis declined to name the countries which support the group's initiative or the possible venue of the suggested peace conference.

The main concern behind the organisation's effort was for the "perhaps millions" of people who could be displaced because of the fears of "war on a massive scale" in the region, Lillis said.

Lillis said the group's chairman, Father Kevin Doherty, who held talks with His Majesty King Hussein in Amman Oct. 14 before flying to Baghdad, remained in the Iraqi capital awaiting "certain clarifications and responses" to the proposal, which also includes an offer of humanitarian help to "vulnerable groups" hit by the international sanctions.

"In the meantime, we appeal to all concerned parties not to do anything inflammatory" to aggravate the situation, Lillis said.

Parallel to the peace effort,

proposal was. "I am not at liberty to release any more details at this point in time since the efforts and the talks are very delicate," he said.

Lillis, who travelled to Baghdad with Father Doherty Oct. 15, said the Iraqi government officials contacted by the group included Parliament Speaker Saleh Mahdi Saleh and Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan, through whom it sent at least two messages to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

"Our proposal is on the table" in Baghdad, Lillis said. He did not rule out a visit to Baghdad by Mother Teresa, a 1979 Nobel Peace Prize winner for her charity work in the slums of the Indian city of Calcutta and elsewhere around the world.

Lillis paid tribute to Jordanian efforts to resolve the Gulf crisis and recalled that the King had undertaken moves before the United Nations. The King's efforts, he said, "could be built upon."

Stopping short of criticising the U.N., Lillis said that "no one has come up with any peace solution" to the Gulf crisis. He said his group was in contact with "everyone who is interested in peace."

Lillis summed up the group's opinion about British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's position on the Gulf crisis with one word: "Unhelpful."

"Refugee 89-90" appears to have offered to the Iraqi government by the organisation.

"As a previous winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, and as a person recognised by the whole world as a tireless campaigner for the cause of peace and goodwill amongst all, we feel that she was in a good position to help," Lillis said.

He noted that hundreds of thousands of refugees from Iraq and Kuwait passed through Jordan and praised the Kingdom's leadership and people for the impact of the international sanctions against Iraq. Lillis affirmed that the effects of the sanctions were showing among some sectors of the Iraqi population. Other peace emissaries have also said that there was an acute shortage of baby food and milk in Iraq.

The "refugee year" official provided very little detail of what exactly the group's peace

Gulf crisis affects AAU activities

AMMAN (J.T.) — Certain aspects of the activities of the Association of Arab Universities (AAU) have been affected by the Gulf crisis, mainly meetings and seminars that had been scheduled to be held in Arab states, according to AAU Secretary General Dr. Mohammad Dugheim.

A seminar on history teaching at Arab universities that has been scheduled for the coming month at the University of Jordan, a seminar on dentistry, which was scheduled for January 1991 at Tanta University in Egypt, a seminar on university regulations in New York as well as international conferences, to present the case of the Arab universities, which have been closed for more than three years without justification by the Israelis, Dugheim said.

"In many cases world organisations have been exercising pressure on the Israeli authorities to reopen the Arab universities and release staff members and students," Dugheim added.

He said that the AAU would continue to extend all possible assistance to the Arab universities in occupied territories in cooperation with the Arab universities so that Palestinians' steadfastness could be further boosted.

He said that the AAU was trying to increase the number of seats assigned in Arab universities for students from occupied Palestine and to increase the amounts of funds allocated for Arab universities under Israeli rule.

The AAU board meeting, he added, has scheduled a meeting in Qatar in February where a

Jordan Times

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Gorbachev on the mark

SOVIET President Mikhail Gorbachev hit the right chord yesterday when he called for an inter-Arab meeting to settle the Gulf crisis. His call should revive hope that the world may finally be coming back to its senses in handling what is basically an intra-Arab problem.

The Gulf landscape would have been so much different today had the Arab World been given enough time and support to restore Kuwait just after the Aug. 2 invasion. But as things went, condemnations were more important, so were "opportunities" to establish a new world order and all sorts of attempts to seize on narrow national self interests by those who wrecked the then budding Arab solution.

With what President Gorbachev said in Paris yesterday, this may be the beginning of a tumultuous 360-degree turn in the search for a Gulf solution. That is, unless a shooting war is in the making already. Up until the just-concluded Soviet-French summit, France was constantly groping for ideas that carried the seeds of a possible compromise. Those ideas culminated in the Sept. 24 initiative of President Francois Mitterrand in his speech to the General Assembly. France continued its zigzag approach towards that goal even in the face of some strong opposition, but seems to have shied away from pressing on probably because it did not want to be seen as breaking ranks with the U.S. and Britain in the aftermath of the Iraqi decision to free French nationals.

The Soviets appear to be stepping in now to fill the gap that the French might have left behind temporarily. Significantly, the Gorbachev statement is mutually reinforcing of the original French position which has always sought to find a solution to the problem within an Arab context and is in line with Security Council Resolution 660 which also calls on the Arabs to work out their own problems. The fact that Mr. Gorbachev's personal representative, Yevgeny Primakov, was in Saudi Arabia yesterday lends credence to the assertion that the Soviets are not operating in a vacuum. It also proves that Moscow's position is more practical and savvy of Arab politics than it is theoretical and isolated from the realities on the ground in this region. The onus now is on the Arabs themselves to understand the message and to absorb the implications of a solution imposed from the outside.

The Arab World is not unaware that the U.S., Britain and other like-minded countries have their own agenda to pursue in this part of the world. This agenda is not identical to ours. Nor does it serve our best interests. An Arab political solution to the Iraq-Kuwait conflict is not only feasible and preferable; it is the shortest and surest way to averting devastating war and foreign domination of this area.

It is incumbent on Saudi Arabia in particular to revisit Prince Sultan's recent statements and its old approach to solving inter-Arab problems. The kingdom must remember that with its mentality and own agenda, President George Bush and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher are the least likely to have Arab interests at heart. In the end, only the Arabs can help themselves.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

As a Soviet presidential envoy continues his tour in the Arab region, a Soviet-French summit is being held in Paris in search for a political solution to the Gulf crisis, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Monday. The language of war, the paper said, is no more preferred in the West except for Britain; and it is not used by the Arabs with the exception of Egypt, the language of peace is now being preferred by many nations which chose to follow Jordan's example in this course, since Jordan and the other peace-loving nations realise the magnitude of the devastation that could befall the region should war start and should the Western nations persist in their drive to impose their hegemony on the region for the sake of securing their own selfish interests, said the paper. The world community is no more forced to succumb to the United States will and the British Zionist conspiracies against the Arab Nation although the military buildup is continuing in the Gulf and despite the absence of a clear cut plan yet to achieve peace through dialogue, the paper pointed out. There is no doubt that Iraq for its part realises the dangers of war in the Gulf and is now doing all it can to achieve a peaceful settlement that would ensure the rights of all parties, the paper continued. The paper expressed hope that the current diplomatic efforts would yield fruit.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily expressed dissatisfaction with the Syrian media's interpretation of the American policies in the Arab region, and criticised Damascus's call for separating between the Gulf issue and the Palestine question. Mahmoud Al Rimawi says that the Syrian media have been calling on the Arabs to reconsider their stand with regard to the United States only in terms of Washington's relations with Tel Aviv, but the same media supports the United States stand vis-a-vis the Gulf crisis and the presence of the American forces in the Gulf. The Syrian media, says the writer, have been all praise for the United States for supporting Syria's actions against General Aoun in Lebanon, but nothing has been said by the same media about Washington's continued support for Israel in maintaining its occupation of Southern Lebanon, Rimawi notes. He says that Syria and the Arabs should realise that the United States can change its policies overnight depending on its own interests, but it remains the same ally of Israel in all its actions. He says that Washington can care about nothing except its own interests and the interests of its allies in the Arab region.

CAUSE and effect: with the disintegration of the Soviet bloc, the once great Non-Aligned Movement, spearheaded by the Third World countries, has, to all purposes, been rendered defunct too. It is as if the Soviet Union has played a dirty trick upon the Third World. Without serving any notice at all, it suddenly withdrew from its role as a superpower. Given the nature of internal crisis they were — and are — facing, the Soviet authorities perhaps had little choice left. That does not still lessen the predicament for those Third World governments who had for long moved the non-aligned show.

The bipolarity of the Cold War had suited these governments exceedingly well. It was a mishmash of sincerity of belief and role-playing: some of the non-aligned would tilt toward this superpower, some toward the other one, occasionally allegiances would be switched.

'Global power and its distribution, hinge on the power of money. The West's near-total control over international credit institutions confers upon it an extraordinary advantage in influencing arrangements in country after poor country: otherwise supposed to be sovereign.'

There were certain rules of the game, cynical and yet fairly well understood. During the day you were part of a united front of the under-developed nations railing against imperialism and neo-colonialism, and reading stern sermons to either or both of the superpowers. Following sundown, as the cows came home, and the curtains were drawn, a change of script took place — it was all obsequiousness, and the countries begged for favours from the superpower they had a special, "confidential" relationship with.

The coordinates of such behaviour were precisely defined. What gave the Non-Aligned Movement its resilience was this ability to apply pressure, alternately or simultaneously, with total risklessness, on either superpower. By the smaller fry. Over the years, this flair for gentle blackmailing received tacit acceptance in the circles that mattered. Tolerance was the by-word, live and let live, you would live as long as the superpowers, either or both of them, would allow you to. The superpowers too would permit the arrangement to be sustained: both discovered previously unsuspected virtues in it. The key strategy for the successful conduct of the Cold War was to build up a milled of terror, which would cause fright, but would not go out of control; at the very first sign of any such danger, either superpower would use one of the non-aligned governments as a patsy to send a message across to the other party: things would immediately simmer down.

Now tragedy has struck. One of the superpowers has gone out of business, and the only one left in the arena could not care less for the non-aligned rabble. The profession of non-alignment is gone. Which is why the Iraq-Kuwait crisis caught the Third World nations so much groping for a position they could cling on to.

BEIRUT — Distrust among Lebanon's warlords poses the next challenge to President Elias Hrawi following the crushing of his main opponent General Michel Aoun in a Syrian-led attack on the Christian enclave two weeks ago.

Harawi's government wants to unite divided Beirut and areas to the north and south under one army. It plans to close militia offices and militarily-controlled ports and illegal tax collection by armed groups.

But militia leaders remain divided over disarming their private armies, some with thousands of men, who have fought over 15 years for dominance of the country. Their memories are long and often bitter.

Druze Leader Walid Jumblatt told Reuters at the weekend he would only hand over his militia's weapons to Syria, and not to the Lebanese army. He said the Sectarian

divided army, commanded by a Maronite Christian, had sided with his rival Christian Lebanese Forces (LF) militia in battles against his forces in the Druze-held Shouf mountains in 1983.

"I will (only) return the trust to its source," said Jumblatt, leader of the Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP).

Samir Geagea, who heads the 10,000-strong LF, said on Thursday he was no longer at war with his rival Muslim groups.

Jumblatt, who has some 5,000 men, said despite talks of peace and national reconciliation, his feud with the LF would go on.

"The matter does not end by shaking hands," he said. "We have an enemy who until the near past was at war with us."

There are nine main militias in Lebanon, most allied to Syria, Iran or Israel. The main groups are the pro-Syrian Amal, the PSP, the Iranian-backed Hezbollah (Party of God), the LF and the pro-Israeli South Lebanon Army.

He said the Sectarian

(SLA).

Nabil Berri, the leader of the 5,000-strong Amal has said he was prepared to disband his group Hezbollah, which is believed to hold most of the 12 Western hostages in Lebanon, says it wants to keep guns to use against Israel.

There are a handful of smaller groups, all pro-Syrian, which Lebanese sources believe would rapidly switch from the gun to the ballot box once Amal and the LF took the lead and the threat of annihilation by heavily-armed enemies diminished as army powers increased.

The Israel-backed South Lebanon Army militia which controls a strategic buffer zone along the Jewish state's northern border, is outside the control of the Lebanese government.

Jumblatt, a close ally to Syria which has 40,000 troops in Lebanon, said he would not give his arms to the Lebanese army before the formation of a new "patriotic and unbiased military command" that did

not favour Christians over Muslims.

He urged army commander general Emile Lahoud to clean his ranks of "suspicious officers" and make new formations on a "trusted national basis".

The Druze leader demanded that a Syrian-Lebanese-American committee be formed to supervise and guarantee the disarming of the LF, which he accused of being the ally of Israel and the United States in Lebanon.

"I want guarantees that the Lebanese Forces militia will not retain its weapons. This needs a joint Arab and international committee," he added.

Jumblatt asked that his 5,000 men be integrated with the army when they are disbanded.

"We can't just throw them in the street. We have to find a solution for them," he added.

He said he had accepted an Arab peace plan reached in the Saudi city of Taif to end Lebanon's 15 years of civil war "but that doesn't mean that we have accepted hypocritical reconciliation by beard kissing."

Geagea said however: "Whoever agreed to the Taif plan is no longer our enemy. The state of enmity between us and the others is over."

"How can we forget the history of Geagea and his wars," Jumblatt said. "Suddenly we have to clear his record and forget the past...no, there are limits to everything."

Geagea's militiamen fought bloody battles with several leftist groups in the Shouf moun-

Shifting loyalties

By Ashok Mitra

To watch the United States and the Soviet Union side on the same side of a United Nations resolution was too overwhelming an experience. It took the poorer countries of the world some while to accept as fact what was till yesterday an absurdity, yes, black and white were indistinguishable, the interests of the USA and the Soviet Union converge. All past calculations have thus to be thrown out the window: the Third World nations are, in the aftermath, left to fend for themselves.

be saved from starvation and epidemic did not however satisfy the standards of humanitarianism the U.S. State Department and Margaret Thatcher had set for themselves; it needed the threat of united action on the part of the poorer countries to force a shift in their stand.

That is both a signal and a lesson. The U.S. administration appears to be acting in accordance with a carefully worked out script. The collapse of the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe is a gift from heaven. It might still be only a temporary situation. Another great ideological upsurge in the lands to the east of the Oder-Neisse line cannot be ruled out for ever. In any event, the East Europeans cannot provide the United States and its allies the oil they desperately need to service their burgeoning standard of living. Another couple of decades are perhaps needed for the technological breakthrough that will liberate them from their pernicious dependence on oil-based energy. Forget the U.N. Charter, might is right, the United States will secure its sources of supply of oil in West Asia through deployment of force, by actually landing its army and marines in the Arab Peninsula to protect the oil installations there. The Qadhafis and the Saddam Husseins are obstructionists; they stand athwart great American objective in West Asia; they therefore deserve to be destroyed. And the Americans can hardly suppress their delight at the serendipity that has visited them. The winding down of the Cold War could have been domestically unwise; it might have halted the demand for armaments, provided a jolt to the industrial-military complex, and caused a first rate economic depression in the country. The West Asian developments have reversed all that; the toadying sheikhs will now be made to buy billions and billions dollars worth of junk "armaments" from the States, the threat of domestic recession will immediately disappear.

In this exciting agenda, the poor belonging to the Third World do not occur. Neither the Soviet Union nor the United States will assume any responsibility for them. That fact should make them grow up, and grow up fast. Repeating after others such banalities as that Iraq must quit her aggression in Kuwait is not going to yield them any dividends.

The "catalyst" group our government is trying to put together in association with Algeria and Yugoslavia has still the wrong focus. Wangling some money out of the rich Western powers to rehabilitate the workers displaced from West Asia is small-time stuff, and will not take us very far. The Western governments may throw some crumbs towards our direction; that would be about all. The experiments with "catalysis" have to be for a far wider purpose. We must learn to discard the illusion that begging for favours is any kind of foreign policy. To survive in the non-bipolar climate,

we have to mature into toughness, which only joint planning with other governments placed in the same plight as ours can promote.

Of course, we must go by

out own interpretation of

"humanitarian circumstances," and continue to airdrop food and medicines to Iraq and Kuwait. If half-a-dozen members of the former non-aligned movement were to form a joint air armada, the Western powers are bound to think twice before attempting to enforce the kind of "interdiction" they are threatening the poorer nations with. It is going to be a new sort of Cold War: the combatants of the rules of basic manoeuvre are however unchanged: keep rattling the sabre but do not go overboard. Any actual outbreak of conflagration endangering wholesale their oil supplies is unlikely to suit Western interests. That hit of real politik should stimulate the poorer governments into more activism.

It is equally important to look beyond today's immediate crisis. The structure of global politics has to be assembled afresh, and on the basis of new assumptions. With the Soviet bloc for the present

er of money. The West's near-total control over international credit institutions confers upon it an extraordinary advantage in influencing the economic arrangements in country after poor country, otherwise supposed to be sovereign: the terms of trade are turned against these countries, their domestic policies are shaped according to the interests of the West. The multinational corporations walk into these countries and control just any sphere of activity they choose. The compulsions of independent development should thus push the Third World nations into united action against this credit monopoly. To subdue a monopoly, it is a standard dodge to set up a counter-monopoly.

To checkmate the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank and their assorted subsidiaries who between them have complete command over the world's liquidity, the Third World countries need to establish a credit system of their own. They, in other words, must think to set up their own bank. Such a bank must however be backed by adequate resources, by availing which a poor country will be able to stand up to the hulking of Western corporations and trading agencies. Thus, the catalyst group the newspapers are mentioning can be only a beginning; the Third World governments must set to work a group of economists and financial experts to go quietly into the matter and prepare the blueprint of a strong and resilient Third World credit institution. While proceeding with this task, the parties concerned must discard all mental reservations about the company they want to keep. Only Libya, Iran, Iraq and other such oil-rich nations are in a position to contribute the immense resources called for underwriting the viability of a Third World bank. That reality has to be accepted.

It has to be obviously a new texture of global relationships. The Arabs, and perhaps the Latin Americans, will come into much greater prominence than before in this ambience. Should we in India want to be part of this arrangement, we will have to rid ourselves of the last vestiges of neo-colonial snobbery. We will have to accept new allegiances, new friendships, new rules. And of course pick up new languages, such as Spanish and Arabic.

Faced with this challenge, will our government be caught in two minds? There are indications that it is indeed likely to be. Krishna Menon was an aberration, our Ministry of External Affairs is by and large still the outfit the pining-after-the-raj ICS crowd helped Jawaharlal Nehru to assemble: they chiselled into a fine art the practice of mouthing non-aligned mumbo-jumbo in public, while kowtowing to the Western powers in private. That pattern of behaviour dies hard. There is, besides, the Ministry of Finance, packed with starry-eyed admirers of Western financial institutions, who will fight and fight again to prevent the emergence of a parallel centre of financial power. Some amongst us certainly dislike the idea of India surviving as a sovereign nation.

This article is reprinted from *The Illustrated Weekly of India*. The writer is a minister of the state of West Bengal of India.



Geagea said however: "Whoever agreed to the Taif plan is no longer our enemy. The state of enmity between us and the others is over."

"How can we forget the history of Geagea and his wars," Jumblatt said. "Suddenly we have to clear his record and forget the past...no, there are limits to everything."

Geagea's militiamen fought bloody battles with several leftist groups in the Shouf moun-

... However a few signs of hope shine out like beacons in black Africa

NAIROBI (R) — From north to south, east to west, Africa is wracked by seemingly unending turmoil and unrest.

In many countries, drought and poverty worsen the agony — and relief supplies fall casualty to civil war.

A few signs of hope shine out like beacons.

In South Africa, the white government is taking steps to dismantle the apartheid system that ensnares white privilege and supremacy, but black is killing black as their leaders vie for political leadership.

In Chad, a conflict with Libya that has lasted 17 years may be drawing to an end — but in Ethiopia and Liberia bitter fighting rages on.

Somalia's vast, impoverished land is mostly under rebel control, and fighting continues to southern Sudan. The newest conflict in Africa is a rebel invasion of tiny Rwanda.

In the south of the continent rebel armies wage civil war in Mozambique and Angola, although diplomats say military action in both conflicts appears to have lessened since peace talks started this year.

Reuter correspondents sent the following reports from old and new trouble spots.

RWANDA: This hilly central African country (population:

seven million) became the continent's latest venue for war when a rebel force invaded on Oct. 1.

By the end of the month the rebel force, composed mostly of exiled members of the country's minority Tutsi tribe who deserted the Uganda army to launch their campaign, were firmly entrenched in a northeast corner of the former Belgian colony.

The rebels said they were campaigning for Rwandan citizenship and the overthrow of President Juvenal Habyarimana, who they called corrupt and undemocratic.

The government accused the rebels of trying to re-install Tutsi leadership which prevailed before a revolt by the majority Hindu tribe in 1959.

Diplomatic efforts to end the conflict were launched rapidly and both sides agreed in principle to ceasefire. But the government later accused rebels of truce violations and called for an international monitoring force.

ETHIOPIA: The cockpit for two of Africa's most bitter conflicts — in Eritrea and Tigray.

In Eritrea, guerrillas have been fighting since 1962 for independence for the former Italian colony, Africa's longest-running civil war.

Thousands have died in the fighting which has devastated the land. With rains failing in the

impoverished Horn of Africa, Ethiopia has also been ravaged by some of the worst famines this century. The United Nations estimates some four million people face starvation next year.

The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) has laid siege to President Mengistu Haile Mariam's second army of around 120,000 men dug in near the Eritrean capital Asmara and linked to Addis Ababa only by an air bridge.

Meanwhile, the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), which says it is fighting for a broader-based government now controls Tigray province and parts of neighbouring Gondar, Wollo and Shoa provinces.

LIBERIA: The closest thing the United States ever had to a colony in black Africa, is gripped by a civil war that has wrecked the country and degenerated into bloody tribal conflict.

Thousands of people, mostly civilians, have been killed since rebel leader Charles Taylor invaded northeastern Liberia last December seeking to overthrow president and former army master Sergeant Doe.

The combat in this lush West African country, founded in 1847 by freed American slaves, quickly took on tribal overtones as Doe's Krahn-dominated army took reprisals against civilians of the Gio

and Mano tribes which provide the bulk of Taylor's forces.

Taylor's rag-tag rebels took revenge on Krahn and their tribal allies, the Mandingos.

Taylor routed Doe's army in virtually every battle. He quickly took control of almost all the country, but became bogged down when he reached the capital Monrovia in June.

A rival rebel group led by Prince Yormie Johnson, who split from Taylor in February, seized control of Monrovia's port in July.

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) sent in a five-nation peacekeeping force which is seeking to enforce a ceasefire. Doe was tortured to death on Sept. 10 after falling into Johnson's hands.

The peacekeeping force is slowly pushing Taylor back from the outskirts of Monrovia but the U.S.-educated rebel leader has vowed to fight on even if it means guerrilla warfare in the hills.

ALGERIA: Since a new constitution in 1989 guaranteed political freedoms, marches, demonstrations and strikes have become almost daily events in Algiers. The first free general elections are promised for early next year — but the army has warned that it will intervene if turmoil threatens national unity.

CHAD: A 17-year conflict between Chad and Libya over a patch of desert could be coming to a close at last. The two countries agreed last month to refer the dispute to the International Court of Justice in the Hague.

The conflict began in 1973 when Libya annexed the Aouzou Strip, a 110,000-sq. kilometre stretch of the Sahara reported to be rich in Uranium. In 1986 it boiled up into a full-scale war in which France sent military support for Chad.

A ceasefire sponsored by the Organisation of African Unity stopped the fighting in September 1987 but a war of words continued, fanned by long-standing accusations that Libya was supporting Chadian rebels.

SOMALIA: Somali President Mohammed Siad Barre's impoverished country is largely ungovernable, with much of the countryside controlled by heavily-armed rebels.

Increasingly frequent bombings by clandestine groups in Mogadishu, the capital, brought the conflict to its doorstep, and the army has been accused of brutal reprisals against civilians in its war with rebels.

Three main armed opposition groups — the Somali National Movement, the United Somali Congress and the Somali Patriotic Front, based respectively in north, central and southern regions, are fighting to end Siad Barre's 21-year rule.

SUDAN: Sudan has suffered civil war and military coups since independence from Anglo-Egyptian rule in 1956.

War raged in its vast, undeveloped southern area from 1955 until 1972 when then-dictator Jaafar Numeiri agreed to give the south autonomous rule.

Eleven years later rebellion erupted again after Numeiri decided to carve up the south into

Keep out — rebels from the National Front of Liberia man a roadblock near Tappita, in the east of the country, on which they have mounted the skull of a government soldier.

Liberia, the closest thing the United States ever had to a colony in black Africa, is gripped by a civil war that has wrecked the country and degenerated into bloody tribal conflict.

Gorbachev urges move

(Continued from page 1)

Yevgeny Primakov, indicating after a visit to Baghdad that there were some shifts in Iraq's positions. The Soviet leader did not elaborate.

Primakov briefed the Saudi foreign minister Monday on his trip with Saddam.

Primakov met with Prince Al Faisal in Jeddah after Arab foreign ministers of the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) meeting in Riyadh warned that the region was "on the brink of a destructive war."

Primakov, a member of the Soviet presidential council and a top advisor to the Soviet president, was also expected to brief King Fahd on his talks with Saddam.

Prince Fahd told reporters in Riyadh before leaving for Jeddah that the Soviet envoy "asked to come, and so we're going to hear what he has to say."

Neither he nor the chairman of the GCC talks, Oman's Foreign Minister Yousef Ben Alawi, gave any details of what suggestions Primakov might be carrying from Gorbachev.

In Paris, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said earlier Primakov's talks with Saddam had not borne fruit.

"For the moment, there are not many reasons for optimism" coming from the talks, Shevardnadze said. He did not elaborate.

but said he was still hopeful for a peaceful resolution of the crisis.

Gorbachev had suggested on a recent visit to Spain that Iraq may have softened its stance and warned against rushing towards a military solution, saying that the coming days "might bring some clarification" of a change in Iraq's position.

The Soviet Union Saturday prevailed on the United States to delay a vote on another anti-Iraq resolution at the U.N. Security Council until the outcome of Primakov's visit was clearer.

Novosti, the official Soviet news agency, has quoted Primakov in the past as saying that Iraq might withdraw from most of Kuwait if it could keep a strip of oil-rich border territory and two islands, which would facilitate Iraqi access to the Gulf.

But Iraq denied contemplating such concessions.

On his 36-hour visit to Baghdad, the second to Iraq this month, Primakov also met with Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat.

A PLO official in Baghdad said Arafat, traditionally a close ally of Moscow, urged the Kremlin to redouble its efforts for a peaceful solution.

Primakov met in Baghdad on Oct. 6 with Saddam, and travelled to Washington for talks with U.S. President George Bush.

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Toshack's future uncertain at Real after defeat by Burgos

By Reuter

LESS than a week after Real Madrid produced their best European result for nearly 30 years, trouncing Austria's Swarovski Tirol 9-1, the Spanish media again began baying for coach John Toshack's blood.

After the Spanish champions' lost 3-1 to lowly Burgos Sunday, their chairman Ramon Mendoza said: "There is no justification whatsoever for this. A bad game is a bad game."

Spanish newspapers agreed the former Welsh international could not hold down his job for much longer after an indifferent start to the league season.

National Radio said Mendoza and other board members had met after the match to discuss Toshack's fate and were likely to sack him later this week.

Real striker Emilio Butragueno, who scored a hat-trick in Wednesday's European Cup second round, first leg tie, said the loss at Burgos was particularly annoying as league leaders

Barcelona's first defeat of the

season against Atletico Madrid Saturday had provided Real with a chance to close the four-point gap.

In the Netherlands, another British coach, former England manager Bobby Robson, also came under pressure after PSV Eindhoven went down 3-1 to champions Ajax Amsterdam.

Ajax has a three-point lead in the first division, although PSV have a game in hand.

Sports commentators said injury-depleted PSV played the better football for much of the match and gave Ajax goalkeeper Stanley Menzo most of the credit for the Amsterdam team's win.

PSV were without prolific Brazilian striker Romario, sidelined with an ankle injury, and midfielder Erwin Koeman, out with an Achilles' injury.

Before the match PSV's general manager Kees Ploegsma attempted to scotch rumours that Robson's future with the club was in doubt. He said the coach had a two-month contract to fulfil.

In Italy, praise was heaped on Juventus, who beat Interna-

zionale 4-2 in the best of Sunday's matches, and on new league leaders Sampdoria.

It was Juventus's first home

league win of the season, the first

time manager Gigi Maffredi had

notched up a victory over his

Internazionale counterpart

Giovanni Trapattoni and the first

time Italy's World Cup hero Salvatore Schillaci had scored in a

league match this season.

Sunday was also the first time

Sampdoria have been alone at the

top of the Italian table since 1982.

The hero of their 1-0 away win

over AC Milan was 35-year-old

Brazilian Toninho Cerezo, whose

72nd minute goal toppled Milan

from top spot and ended their

seven-month run of home league

games without defeat.

After a crushing defeat by Cologne two weeks ago, Bayern

Munich's captain Klaus Augenthaler

jokingly promised fans that his

side would not lose again this

season.

Since then the reigning Bun-

desliga champions have been in

super form, beating Hamburg

6-1 last weekend. Bulgaria's

Italy beats Cuba in world volleyball final

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Italy, world league and European men's volleyball champions, completed a triple triumph when they beat Cuba 3-1 in the World Championship final.

Cuba, with brilliant spiking, rallied to go ahead 14-13 but failed to get the vital point to level sets and stay in the match.

Italy's ace spiker Andrea Zorzi notched 26 kills while Cuba's Joel Despaigne, considered to be one

of the world's top players, hammered 37 kills in a match dominated by aggressive spiking and spectacular blocking by both sides.

In the third place play-off, six times winners the Soviet Union crushed hosts Brazil 15-8, 15-8, 15-4 in 70 minutes.

There was controversy in the

fourth set when the referee re-

versed a decision, which would

have levelled the score at 10-10, to

leave the Cubans trailing 10-9.

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15-4 in 70 minutes.

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1990

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY OCTOBER 30, 1990
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

member of your family will be of

help.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) A new outlook is necessary if you are going to be able to make the success that you anticipate of an undertaking in your every day activities.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You have been holding back from doing something of a material nature that could put more money in your coffers so listed to an expert.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You are fixed in some standpoints, most of which is good, but a logical minded person from the outside can give you ideas to improve your situation.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You feel very much restricted by some anxiety but worrying over it helps you not at all and getting into a project is the best solution.

ARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Put yourself in a position to accept assistance from both friends and attachments where building a more talented expression is concerned.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You can be upset by both influential outsiders as well as by members of your own household so maintain an attitude of poise and confidence.

U.S. Football League Standings					
American Conference					
East					
W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
Buffalo	6	1	.857	187	136
Miami	6	1	.857	152	90
N.Y. Jets	3	5	.375	151	190
Indianapolis	2	5	.286	105	162
New England	1	6	.143	100	196

Central					
Cincinnati	5	3	0	.625	205
Houston	4	4	0	.500	181
Pittsburgh	3	4	0	.429	169
Cleveland	2	6	0	.250	128

West					
La Raiders	6	1	0	.857	147
Kansas City	4	3	0	.571	167
Denver	3	4	0	.429	168
Seattle	3	4	0	.429	144
San Diego	3	5	0	.375	164

National Conference

National Conference					
East					
N.Y. Giants	W	L	T	PCT	PF
Washington	7	0	0	1.000	171
Philadelphia	4	3	0	.571	144
Dallas	3	4	0	.429	151
Phoenix	2	5	0	.286	100

Central					
Chicago	6	1	0	.857	173
Tampa Bay	4	4	0	.500	157
Detroit	3	4	0	.429	168
Green Bay	3	4	0	.429	127
Minnesota	1	6	0	.143	150

West					
San Francisco	6	1	0	.857	174
Atlanta	3	4	0	.429	199
La Rams	2	4	0	.333	164
New Orleans	2	5	0	.286	115

Sunday's games

Buffalo 27, New England 10. Detroit 27, New Orleans 10. Miami 27, Indianapolis 7. Green Bay 24, Minnesota 10. New York Jets 17, Houston 12. Philadelphia 21, Dallas 20. Chicago 31, Phoenix 21. San Francisco 20, Cleveland 17. San Diego 41, Tampa Bay 10. New York Giants 21, Washington 10. Atlanta 38, Cincinnati 17. Open dates: Denver, Los Angeles Raiders, Kansas City, Seattle.

By the Associated Press

JUMBLE

THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME by Henry Arnold and Bob Lee

NUDAT
CUPAN
SMIBUT
THINEW

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Economy

France, Soviet Union sign ambitious accord

RAMBOUILLET, France (Agencies) — President Francois Mitterrand and Mikhail Gorbachev signed a cooperation agreement Monday pledging French assistance as the Soviet Union shifts to a market economy.

The treaty also commits France to helping the Soviets arrange accords with the 12-nation European Community (EC).

The two leaders signed the agreement at the Chateau of Ramboillet, 53 kilometers southwest of Paris, following private talks on the Gulf crisis and other issues.

The treaty says either side may call for consultations if it deems its "major security interests" have been threatened.

The document, to be ratified by the French and Soviet parliaments, also commits both sides to promote democracy and "a Europe based on the right of

law."

Both sides agreed to work for "the transformation of Europe into a common home and the creation of a European confederation," blending the two visions of Europe promoted by Gorbachev and Mitterrand.

The treaty was the first such document to be concluded since 1944 between the two sides.

It was originated by the Soviet Union, which had sought to include a comprehensive non-aggression pact similar to one incorporated into a treaty signed with newly-united Germany.

But diplomatic sources said France balked at such a suggestion, saying it did not correspond with the nature of relations between the two sides.

The Soviet Union, seeking full integration into both European and world institutions, has been pressing for such treaties with several European countries.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Monday, October 29, 1990					
Central Bank official rates					
Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell		
U.S. dollar	653.0	657.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	512.5	515.6
Pound Sterling	1278.3	1286.0	Dutch guilders	364.3	368.0
Deutschmark	433.0	435.6	Swiss francs	116.7	117.4
Swiss franc	511.8	514.9	Italian lire (for 100)	57.9	58.2
French franc	129.4	130.2	Belgian franc (for 10)	209.1	210.4

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.			
One Sterling	1.9565/75	U.S. dollar	
One U.S. dollar	1.1630/40	Canadian dollar	
	1.5110/15	Deutschmarks	
	1.7030/40	Dutch guilders	
	1.2780/90	Swiss francs	
	31.08/13	Belgian francs	
	5.054/90	French francs	
	1131/1132	Italian lire	
	127.85/95	Japanese yen	
	5.6020/70	Swedish crowns	
	5.8695/8745	Norwegian crowns	
	5.763/585	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	371.25/371.75	U.S. dollars	

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

TOKYO — Stocks closed higher with buying of cash indices by futures arbitragers accounting for most of the gains. The Nikkei closed up 323.67 to 25,329.31.

SYDNEY — Inactivity by major investors pushed shares down. The All Ordinaries closed 9.9 down at 1,344.7.

HONG KONG — Bargain-hunters erased early losses but institutional investors remained sidelined. The Hang Seng index closed 12.65 up at 3,063.53.

SINGAPORE — Prices closed higher as buyers returned in the afternoon, influenced by a firmer close in Tokyo. The Straits Times Industrial index ended 2.12 up at 1,177.11.

ZURICH — Shares ended easier but above the day's lows. The all-share SPI index closed 4.5 down at 933.7.

PARIS — Shares were fractionally lower at midday. Quiet trade was dominated by Gulf concerns and easier trends on other European markets. At 1207 GMT the CAC-40 index was down 0.89 at 1,617.69.

LONDON — Stocks were mixed in late trading but above the day's lows. The market adopted a wait-and-see attitude towards early Wall Street gains. At 1611 GMT the FTSE index was down 1.2 at 2,061.9.

NEW YORK — Stocks held firm in late-morning trading but blue chips edged off session highs. Analysts said market strength was largely a reaction to Friday's sharp decline. The Dow was up about 19 to 2,455.

TODAY

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Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30
Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

Egypt reaps rewards from Gulf involvement

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt's military involvement in the Gulf crisis is proving to be a financial windfall for President Hosni Mubarak's government.

His U.S. and Arab allies are moving to write off \$14 billion in debts — almost a third of a \$50 billion obligation to foreign creditors that for years has crippled the Egyptian economy.

Aid worth hundreds of millions of dollars also is pouring in, and prospects are considered bright for agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to reschedule the remaining foreign debt.

Mubarak is reaping political benefits as well. Egyptian commentators are praising his handling of Egypt's role in the crisis that began Aug. 2 with Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

Mahfouz Al Ansary, editor of the government's Al Gomhouria newspaper, hailed Mubarak's "determination and skill," his "patience, wisdom and hard work."

At the onset of the crisis, it hardly looked as if Mubarak would emerge a winner.

Back then, Egypt had looked likely to be a big finan-

cial loser in the conflict. It faced losses estimated at \$4.5 billion in the form of a ruined tourism industry, reduced Suez canal revenues and dwindling remittances from Egyptians working in Gulf countries.

What turned the tide was Mubarak's quick public response to the Iraqi takeover, despite pledges to give quiet diplomacy a chance.

He muscled through an Arab League summit a resolution condemning Iraq, demanding withdrawal from the emirate and authorizing dispatch of troops to the Gulf region.

Then he sent nearly 16,000 Egyptian troops to Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. They were there supposedly to help defend those Arab states, but more importantly, the involvement gave an Arab cover to the presence of Western forces in Saudi Arabia.

Mubarak spent four days in the Gulf region last week, visiting four states allied with him against Iraq. At the end of the tour, it was announced that Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait's exiled government

were writing off more than \$7 billion Egypt owes them.

Forgiveness of a \$6.7 billion Egypt debt to the United States was part of the foreign aid programme Congress approved and sent to U.S. President George Bush before adjourning its session early Sunday.

Despite Bush's strong support of the writeoff, his signature on the act is not assured. It also entails reducing aid to El Salvador by 50 per cent, so Bush will have to weigh his Middle East policy against his Central America policy before deciding whether to sign the act or veto it.

Prime Minister Atif Sediki said Saturday that interest on the military debt alone amounts to almost \$1 billion.

As for other debt relief, Egypt has been trying to negotiate a new package with the IMF since a 1988 rescheduling agreement expired.

Western economists in Cairo say Egypt and the IMF have ironed out most of their differences and expect to sign a new pact early next year. That will pave the way for Cairo's West-



Hosni Mubarak

ern lending nations to convene and arrange rescheduling.

A well-informed economist, speaking on condition he not be further identified, said Egypt has agreed to reduce subsidies further on basic food items, a key IMF reform demand.

He told reporters Monday at the Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan that only shops deemed healthy enough to succeed in repaying the loans would receive the aid.

Popov, a radical economist who quit the Soviet Communist Party in July, predicted the "500 days" economic reform plan adopted by the Supreme Soviet, the national legislature, earlier this month would fail, threatening the future of democratic forces in the Soviet Union.

The plan calls for such steps as encouraging small private business and ending many state monopolies.

Popov predicted that a few months of failure would convince the Soviet leadership to adopt the more radical measures he and others support.

He rejected calls for Gorbachev's resignation, but said he himself and others might resign if results of national restructuring were disastrous.

Meanwhile, he said he might "passively resist" the conservative restructuring programme and carry out a more radical economic programme locally.

Popov said he would not take the extreme step of asking foreigners to extend loans directly to Moscow City. Loans should go through the central government, but with their recipients and use clearly specified, he said.

Popov joined others in the Soviet Union in calling for Japan to extend economic aid before

Moscow mayor appeals for Japanese loans

TOKYO (Agencies) — Moscow Mayor Gavril Popov appealed Monday for Japanese loans to help his city convert state businesses into private enterprises.

Kremlin blocking investment

Moscow's deputy mayor Monday criticised what he called the Kremlin's vague economic policies, saying foreign investors were reluctant to start businesses here.

Speaking at a news conference in Moscow, Sergei Stankevich assured Muscovites they would have ample food this winter despite rumours that widespread shortages would lead to a food crisis.

But he blamed the Soviet government for failing to take steps that would encourage foreign investment.

The absence of definite economic plans by the Soviet Union has created instability and hampers contracts with foreign firms, Stankevich said, referring to conflicts between the Kremlin and some republics over how to switch to a market economy.

"No foreign partner will sign a contract if you haven't decided if you're going to have a federal tax or if you are going to have private property," he said.

The Soviet parliament 10 days ago approved a market economy programme backed by President Mikhail Gorbachev, but it was vague on details and has been criticised by several republics including the largest one, the Russian Federation.

Gorbachev issued several decrees to start implementing the programme Friday. But Stankevich, a leading figure in a group of radicals who hold a majority in the Moscow City Council, said these were only half-measures.

"Following the last two presidential decrees, we invited foreigners to open shops in Moscow and sell consumer goods for rubles," he said. "But no laws have been passed giving firms permission to hold rouble accounts."

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Non-Communists poised to win in Georgian elections

Soviet troops stand by to enter autonomy-seeking Moldavia region

MOSCOW (AP) — Gagauz militants in Moldavia have set up cordons to prevent Soviet troops from entering their region and enforcing state-of-emergency measures imposed by the republic's parliament, the Soviet News Agency (TASS) said Monday.

The Soviet troops, under the command of Gen. Yuri Shatalin, are standing by, ready to go into the Gagauz-controlled territory as soon as orders are issued by parliament, TASS said.

TASS said both Moldavian militia units and Soviet Interior Ministry troops "are prepared to enter the state-of-emergency areas to carry out the instructions of the Moldavian parliament."

A provisional parliamentary committee was monitoring the stand-off from Chirnushia, a small town in southern Moldavia bordering on the Gagauz territory, which was declared a state-of-emergency zone last Friday.

"Although there were no clashes between Moldavians and Gagauz volunteers, representatives of Gagauzes set up cordons to prevent the militia from entering their region and enforcing state-of-emergency measures," TASS said.

The Gagauz are a close-knit group of about 150,000 people, all descendants of Christians who fled to Moldavia from Turkey because of religious persecution about 160 years ago.

Worried by rising Moldavian nationalism and anger over a law making Moldavian the republic's official language, the Gagauz claimed the southern corner of the republic and began holding

elections for an autonomous government last week.

Brigades of Moldavian volunteers, said by various sources to number between 12,000 and 50,000, streamed into the area to try and stop the independence movement.

Gagauz youths in turn formed defensive units, aided by some ethnic Russians, who also oppose Moldavian nationalism.

Negotiators for both sides are attempting to defuse the situation and persuade volunteer forces from both sides to pull back.

Soviet officials holding negotiations with representatives of the Gagauz Provisional Committee in the southern city of Komrat called for the withdrawal of militant Gagauz volunteers from the emergency zone, TASS said.

"If this condition is complied with, Moldavian volunteer detachments will be withdrawn from areas adjacent to the state-of-emergency zone," the news agency said.

On Sunday night, the chairman of the executive council of the disputed Komrat region went to television with an appeal for peace between Moldavians and Gagauz.

The inter-ethnic conflict in the republic has reached the point beyond which there will be bloodshed and the deaths of innocent people," he warned.

According to TASS, the two sides have agreed to set up a joint commission for the mutual inspection of the volunteer units in preparation for their withdrawal. In a separate development, a

non-Communist coalition appears to have swept to victory in Soviet Georgia in weekend balloting that all but guaranteed the southern republic would declare its independence from the Soviet Union.

The Round Table-Free Georgia Coalition appeared likely to win 60 to 70 per cent of the seats in the republic's legislature, said David Dzhaparidze, a member of the Central Election Commission.

The voting was the first true multiparty balloting in the Soviet Union.

The Round Table, led by Zviad Gamsakhurdia, won majorities in 26 districts in the capital of Tbilisi as well as the surrounding countryside. About 3 million people were eligible to vote.

Voters cast two ballots, one expressing preference for a party or group of parties and another ballot choosing individual candidates by district.

Official results were not expected until the end of the week, TASS reported. Run-off elections in close races were set for Nov. 11.

Maguli Latariya cast her ballot swathed head to foot in black mourning clothes. Her 16-year-old daughter was one of 19 Georgians killed on April 19, 1989, when Soviet troops broke up a peaceful nationalist protest in Tbilisi.

The killings strengthened independence aspirations. Even the ruling Communist Party of Georgia was forced to advocate independence from Moscow as part of its political platform.

Mrs. Latariya wept as she cast her ballot, saying it was "as if my daughter's voice was telling me what to do." She said she voted for the Round Table Coalition.

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Local news reports said the four were among a dozen people kidnapped by gunmen from a Medellin hotel Thursday. The 12, ostensibly clothes salesmen, had recently arrived from the south-

base of Colombia's most powerful cocaine cartel, some 250 kilometres northwest of Bogota. All had bullet wounds in the head.

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base of Colombia's most powerful cocaine cartel, some 250 kilometres northwest of Bogota. All had bullet wounds in the head.

The Cali cocaine cartel is a rival to the Medellin cartel for lucrative cocaine markets and the two have clashed often in the past.

Bodies of another six of the kidnapped victims were found dumped in different parts of Medellin since Thursday, the Colombian News Agency Colprensa said.

Indian political crisis grows murkier

NEW DELHI (R) — India's complex political crisis grew murkier Monday as Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh tried to fight off a rebellion within his Janata Dal Party, political sources said.

They said Singh had been obliged to retreat from his insistence on early elections, preferably by the end of December, because of the rebellion led by veteran socialist Chandra Shekhar.

With unconcealed encouragement from Rajiv Gandhi's opposition Congress Party, Chandra Shekhar is trying to gain support for toppling Singh from Janata Dal legislators far from keen on fighting an election.

Most other parties are equally reluctant to campaign so soon after last November's elections and with critical and divisive issues dominating a new poll.

"They are trying to wean away our members by saying that with a change of leadership, elections could be avoided," one senior Janata Dal official said.

He said that was why Singh, during a meeting of his cabinet colleagues Saturday, said the party would go into opposition if it lost a parliamentary vote of confidence on Nov. 7.

"V.P. felt it was necessary to assure our members that a losing vote would not mean we would automatically recommend a dissolution of parliament," the official said.

He and other sources close to Singh said, however, that the basic plan to seek elections by the end of the year remained unaltered.

"It's a question of giving them time to absorb the fact that a mid-term poll is inevitable, of not frightening them with the fact and preserving the unity of a party that is not a solid phalanx," said the official, who asked not to be identified.

"V.P. just doesn't want to appear too keen for a poll too early," he added.

Janata Dal expects to lose the vote of confidence, made necessary by the desertion of the Hindu-nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) last Tuesday following the arrest of its leader, Lal Krishan Advani.

He was detained in order to halt his march to the northern town of Ayodhya to start building a temple where a mosque now stands, an issue that threatens to split India.

On Earth, scientists are studying volcanoes, ocean bottoms, lakes and rocks in the Antarctic and Siberian permafrost to see what kinds of life can survive under Martian-like conditions. Work is also going on in laboratory simulations.

At least 100,000 people have been arrested to prevent a mass surge on Ayodhya in the state of Uttar Pradesh, which is ringed by 250,000 army and paramilitary troopers to prevent any attempt to start construction of the temple.

Bush has indicated he would sign the bill, the first major re-

Norway's coalition quits after EC-row

OSLO (R) — Norwegian Prime Minister Jan Syse said Monday that his year-old, three-party coalition was stepping down after a dispute over how far to link the economy to the European Community.

A police spokesman said the victims were killed at random in at least three incidents Sunday night, apparently to avenge the death Saturday of a Zulu migrant worker heading for a rally of the Inkatha Freedom Party in Johannesburg.

Police have arrested a man in connection with the death of the Zulu, who was hacked and stabbed to death near a migrant workers' hostel in the township.

In one of the worst of Sunday's revenge attacks, six men were killed in a hail of bullets as they walked through the Naledi district of Soweto.

The two main options are for the Labour Party, headed by former Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland, to take power or for Syse's Conservative Party to form a one-party government.

Both parties would have to promise hefty concessions to centrist parties to get a majority. In the last election both Labour and the Conservatives lost ground to smaller parties.

NRK public radio said it might take several days before Norway had a working government.

"It's not clear what type of government will be set up," Brundtland said after the announcement. "It depends on parties other than Labour."

Syse said the three parties had cooperated well since taking office but that they had been unable to work out a common policy towards the EC.

"The government should stand united on such a case," Syse said, announcing an extraordinary cabinet meeting at 1100 GMT to formally dissolve the government.

Syse would have to inform Crown Prince Harald of the decision. Harald is acting as regent as King Olav is recovering from illness.

The current crisis flared two weeks ago when the small coalition Centre Party said it would refuse to relax Norwegian laws limiting foreign investment in property, industry, banks and other finance institutions.

Syse's Conservative Party favours full EC membership for Norway, which is a member of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA). It saw the Centre Party's position as a betrayal of Norway's promised part in a joint EC-EFTA free market.

The results gave 85-year-old incumbent Felix Houphouet-Boigny an average 87 per cent in Sunday's vote, the first contested presidential poll in the country's history.

Opposition candidate Laurent Gbagbo accused the ruling PDCI (Democratic Party of Ivory Coast) of massive rigging.

"We are virtually on the brink of civil war in parts of Ivory Coast," Gbagbo told reporters Sunday night.

The first 10 results from more than 300 administrative areas in the cocoa-growing country showed scores for Houphouet-Boigny ranging from 99.69 per cent to 69.07 per cent.

Opposition candidate Laurent Gbagbo accused the ruling PDCI (Democratic Party of Ivory Coast) of massive rigging.

"We are virtually on the brink of civil war in parts of Ivory Coast," Gbagbo told reporters Sunday night.

The rest of the bill provides economic, military and developmental aid for U.S. friends and allies around the globe, including \$3 billion for Israel and \$2.1 billion for Egypt, the two primary aid recipients.

But major legislation including a historic revision of the nation's clean air laws, federal aid for child care, civil rights, the farm bill, housing, and anti-crime proposals languished.

Democrats succeeded in defeating Bush's proposed constitutional amendment to ban flag burning.

But the Democratic Congress couldn't override the president's veto of legislation guaranteeing workers six weeks of paid leave for childbirth or family medical emergencies, or another bill targeting job discrimination that Bush said would have led to hiring quotas.

The 101st Congress never overrode any of 16 Bush vetoes.

And the ethics scandals continued. One House member was disciplined and another quit following sex-related charges.

In the Senate, a group of lawmakers are under investigation for their ties to the head of a failed California Savings and Loan Institution.

Meanwhile, all efforts to contain the costs of insuring failed Savings and Loan Institutions

Truce broken as 16 blacks killed in S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Sixteen blacks were killed and more than 30 wounded in a series of gun attacks which threaten the uneasy truce between rival political factions vying for supremacy in South Africa's troubled townships.

A police spokesman said the victims were killed at random in at least three incidents Sunday night, apparently to avenge the death Saturday of a Zulu migrant worker heading for a rally of the Inkatha Freedom Party in Johannesburg.

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Column 8

40 held at Klan march in Washington

WASHINGTON (R) — A march by a group of white supremacists through the U.S. capital sparked off violent demonstrations and police said they had arrested over 40 protesters. Seven police officers and six demonstrators were slightly injured in clashes with opponents of the Klan and were taken to hospital for treatment, police said.

"Police will not tolerate these cowardly attacks and unnecessary bloodshed in the township," he said in a statement.

Both Inkatha and the ANC held rival displays of strength on Saturday, stretching their uneasy truce to breaking point.

The ANC accuses Inkatha, aided by white-led security forces, of fomenting the violence in a bid to shoot its way into power-sharing negotiations with reformist President F.W. de Klerk. Inkatha and the government deny the charges.

Burma's opposition caves in to military demands